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nonsense has been talked, nor can any one pronounce upon it with any authority. Even a few roughly shaped stones, found at the foot of the outer walls of Tiryns, might begin a new investigation into this unsettled question.

On the whole, the most important discoveries recorded in this book are the wall-paintings on plaster, and the floors of concrete mosaic in patterns; these, and the already mentioned and indisputable gain made in the discovery of the free and general use of mortar in these rough walls. These discoveries are worth all they have cost; and this book probably does full justice to the designs of floor and wall decoration. Otherwise, we leave the book with the feeling that it was made too hastily and brought out too soon. Our hopes of getting finally from Tiryns all that can be got must depend upon the care the Greek government will take of the now exposed remains, until a more patient and complete examination of them can be made.

RUSSELL STURGIS.

UNEDIRTE RÖMISCHE FUNDBERICHTE aus italiänischen Archiven und Bibliotheken veröffentlicht von THEODOR SCHREIBER. 8vo, pp. 80. Leipzig, 1885 [Aus den Berichten d. K. Sächs. Gesell. d. Wissenschaften, Phil.-hist. Classe 1885].

For a number of years an important share in the formation of the C. I. L. has been taken by the MS. collections of inscriptions made at various times by lovers of archæology and antiquities; collections of which we find examples in the earliest Middle Ages and in Carlovingian times, and from that period in a continuous array up to the great antiquarians of the early and late Renaissance. These collections, made generally by travellers, were lying, unknown or forgotten, on the shelves of libraries; but are now studied and edited with the greatest care. To Comm. de Rossi we owe the opening of this new and fruitful field of research, of which he has also thoroughly availed himself for his *Corpus* of early-Christian inscriptions.

At almost the same time another interesting branch of research was begun: the study of MS. descriptions of antiquities found and collected during the preceding three or four centuries, especially in Italy. This study has been developed on two lines; the first, and perhaps the more important, being the inventories of the classic antiquities forming the collections of distinguished patrons of art of the xv, xvi and xvii centuries, a truly inexhaustible mine of riches. This study has not merely a retrospective value: it often enables archæologists to detect and trace

back to the time, place, and circumstances of their discovery many works in our present collections of hitherto unknown provenance, whose value has thus been greatly enhanced.

A second, kindred and hardly less interesting, field for investigation was found in the accounts of discoveries and excavations in Italy, especially in Rome, of which a great part still remain inedited. Prof. Th. Schreiber's pamphlet is an important contribution to the knowledge of these documents. A careful study of the important text of Flaminio Vacca (*Berichte*, 1881, p. 43 seqq.), published in a careless and arbitrary manner by Fea (*Miscellanea filologica critica e antiquaria*, Rome, 1780-1836), led him to the discovery, in the libraries and archives of Rome and other Italian cities, of a great number of documents relating to archaeological discoveries (in the Holy City), a part of which he here publishes. First in importance comes Francesco Valesio (1670-1742), whose shrinking and modest nature made him but little appreciated during his lifetime, but who industriously collected, in a diary of eleven tomes, notices of all the discoveries made from 1700 to 1742, the year of his death: a few specimens are published by Prof. Schreiber.¹ Card. Francesco Vetтори (1710-1770) and Giovanni Bottari (1689-1775), both Florentines and devotees to archæology, corresponded regularly with the noted Francesco Gori (1691-1759), to whom they communicated all the important archaeological news from Rome: many interesting extracts from these letters are here given. One of the most important of the Roman collections in the xvii cent. was the *Museo Puteano*, founded by Cassiano Dal Pozzo (1588-1657), and enlarged by his brother Carlo Antonio, who also kept an archaeological diary of considerable interest and extent. Of quite a different character is Cipriani's (c. 1660) work on the restoration of the Pantheon, including a minute description of all the discoveries which this restoration led to, especially those made during the reconstruction of the system of drainage throughout the Campus Martius.

A. L. FROTHINGHAM, JR.

¹ Valesio speaks of the discovery, near S. Luigi dei Francesi, of a large column of Oriental granite, and notes that three similar columns, placed in the portico of the Pantheon, were found in the same place. Another of these columns was found a few years ago, when digging on this site for the obelisk which was thought by some, from a passage of the *Mercurio Errante*, to be buried at this spot.